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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/715,617

Examiner

Stephen J. Cherry

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS ET AL.

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment of 5-12-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14 and 16-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 May 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-14, and 16-34 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The independent claim 1 recites, "a portable field processor communicatively linked with the speed detector and the camera, wherein the portable field processor receives the speed signal from the speed detector, compares the speed signal to a capture speed threshold that is calculated by the processor as a percentage of a posted speed limit for a road lane passing through the enforcement window, and when the threshold is determined to be exceeded, transmits the image capture signal to the camera". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

The independent claim 9 recites, "positioning a speed detector and a camera at a location selected relative to the traffic sign or signal for monitoring vehicle traffic through an enforcement window in a road lane adjacent the traffic sign or signal, wherein the positioning includes performing ranging of the speed-detector including first aiming the speed detector at the traffic signal, operating the speed detector to determine a measurement distance from the speed detector to the traffic sign or signal, and second aiming the speed detector at a central portion of the road lane". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

The independent claim 18 recites, "means for determining a speed of a vehicle in an enforcement window adjacent the sign or signal and in response, generating a speed

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signal, wherein the speed determining means comprises a laser-based speed detector and wherein the speed detector is configured for initial ranging including first aiming the speed detector at the traffic signal operating the speed detector to determine a measurement distance from the speed detector to the traffic sign or signal, and second aiming the speed detector at a central portion of a road lane in the enforcement window". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

The independent claim 21 recites, "a laser-based speed detector determining a speed of a vehicle in an enforcement window adjacent the sign or signal and in response, generating a speed signal, wherein the speed detector is configured for initial ranging including first aiming the speed detector at the traffic signal, operating the speed detector to determine a measurement distance from the speed detector to the traffic sign or signal, and second aiming the speed detector at a central portion of a road lane in the enforcement window". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

The independent claim 27 recites, "operating the camera to provide charging power to the portable field processor to protect the speed and the digital image file at the portable field processor". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

The independent claim 28 recites, "processing the speed with the portable field processor to determine whether a capture speed threshold has been exceeded and when determined exceeded, transmitting a trigger signal to the camera, wherein the

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capture speed threshold is calculated as a percentage of a posted speed limit for the road lane". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen J. Cherry whose telephone number is (571) 272-2272. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

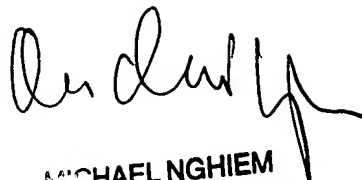
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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MICHAEL NGHIEM
PRIMARY EXAMINER